

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the final Office Action dated July 3, 2007, Claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 11 and 22 are indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The remaining claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) or 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The Examiner's reconsideration of the claims and the indication of allowability of Claims 11 and 22 is noted with appreciation.

Independent Claims 1 and 14 are amended above to incorporate the features of Claims 11 and 22, respectively. Since Claims 11 and 22 were previously indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, Applicant submits that Claims 1 and 14 are now allowable for the same reasons, as are each of the dependent claims.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the pending Claims 1-10, 12-21, and 23-27 are in condition for allowance.

* * * *

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the remarks presented above, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. As such, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. In order to expedite the examination of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney in order to resolve any remaining issues.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required

Appl. No.: 10/620,071
Amdt. dated 08/30/2007
Reply to Office Action of 07/03/2007

therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit
Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas F. Gallo
Registration No. 50,135

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111
LEGAL02/30504442v1

**ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT &
TRADEMARK OFFICE ON August 30, 2007.**